

Draft Meeting Minutes – WSNA – 2018-02-19

(To be voted on for approval at the 2018-03-19 Meeting)

Jim Allhiser called the meeting to order at 7PM. 36 members were present.

Minutes approval – moved by E.M. Easterly seconded by Craig Evans. Motion carries. Count: All Aye, Zero Nay, Zero abstain

Presentation – SKSD Bond – Mike Wolfe, Lisa Harnish

Community input helped shape some of the proposed plans. Specifically space for parking at West Salem high, changes to locker rooms and ventilation there, and space concerns for band and orchestra at all West Salem schools.

619.7 million is the current revised total. This represents a change of \$1.24 per thousand of assessed value in property taxes. A \$300,000 assessed value home would see \$372 or \$31/month for example. Every 10 million up or down adjusts the dollars per thousand of assessed value by approximately \$0.03.

Read More at SKSD Bond - <https://salkeiz.k12.or.us/community/2018-bond-measure/> or <http://yesforsalemkeizerschools.com/>

Question – seismic upgrades?

Each structure on all campuses evaluated individually. The money indicated in the bond for seismic upgrades will only address the “very high” risk structures. Also, building standards have been upgraded from life/safety (able to escape) to immediate re-occupancy to 9.0 rating/scale (Cascadia event). All new structures will be able to be used as an emergency shelter, although SKSD does not run them, they can “open the doors.” This includes new classroom and cafeteria constructions, such as the current plans at Meyers and Chapman Hill if the bond passes.

Presentation – Salem Emergency Management / CERT (Citizens Emergency Response Training) – Roger Stevenson

CERT Team – 250 in west Salem trained. CERT is a neighbor to neighbor support system. Training includes how to keep people out of harm’s way. Move them through shock. Put out small fires before they become big. Basic medical training. And more.

Craig Evans – question – Can you give insight into what the City’s plans are in case of the Cascadia event?

There is a lot of planning at the federal and state levels. Equipment will be moved from staging areas in the east (Redmond), by helicopter load, to redistribution points in Salem, Eugene, and Portland. From there, additional breakdown and distribution. Total timeline could be 10-14 days. There is a resilience study from 2013 that you can look up.

Craig Evans – question – Do you think that there should be a way, such as a bridge, for West Salem residents to reach the other side of the river immediately after a Cascadia event?

Roger Stevenson: “I don’t touch that one. I don’t talk about it.” “That one is too political.” Talk to the Public Works director to discuss caches of equipment and other plans.

Presentation – Code Cleanup – Tory & Bryan

West Salem Business District Action Plan from Urban Renewal has proceeded to become this plan.

<https://www.cityofsalem.net/Pages/west-salem-zone-code-clean-up.aspx>

Goals were to improve zoning to make the neighborhoods near Edgewater “work better” along with the “business district.” Consistency is key – to reflect the actual use and vision for these areas of West Salem to develop in a consistent way, for commercial and mixed use. “Craft industrial use” – between Patterson and Wallace. The zoning will remain industrial, but on the north side around 9th, and on the south around Bassett and 2nd – Limited Retail when tied

to the industrial use – such as a furniture or clothing store if goods are made on-site. The proposal is being finalized and will be presented on March 20th at the Planning Commission meeting. It will be a Public Hearing.

Craig Evans comment – people I've talked to are supportive and plan to take advantage of the simplicity this will bring.

WSNA Member – question about Industrial Site - Oregon Fruits – future of the site?

City has been in close contact with the property owner.

E.M. Easterly question – last or latest version of the plan?

Bryan – in the next couple of weeks final versions will be out

There will be an item on next month's Agenda. WSNA will vote next meeting to officially be in support of the zoning code cleanup as presented in the "final" version – look online within the next couple of weeks.

Reports:

SPD

Officer Tony Fultz filling in for Officer Nunez (out sick). Some discussion about homeless. Councilors Lewis, Kaser, and a WSNA Member provided additional detail that officers, mental health crisis response teams, and ODOT are working together such that response to homelessness is not the criminalization of the condition, but a helpful outreach to provide services to those who literally are sleeping under the bridge without access to even a toilet.

City Councilors

Councilor Cara Kaser –

Chair of homelessness task force (as a response to the failure of the sit/lie ordinance). Community did not want a punitive measure. Task force will look at specific solutions. 17 members on the task force, over 100 people present at the first meeting. First meeting was to define the problem. More meetings will ensue. "What can we do within the next 6 months to help those that are literally sleeping under the bridge and do not have access to a toilet." Next Task Force – March 6th – Anderson Room at Library. 90 minutes. 3rd Meeting – March 20th. Same time and Place.

Police Facility Update – Demolition on old buildings for site prep. RFP out for general contractor / construction manager. Public Communications campaign from SPD - #buildingbuzz –

West Salem Code Cleanup – Unify some of the areas and make it easy for property owners to utilize their property.

Budget Committee Meeting - April 25th 6PM – Will receive city manager's budget and will start reviewing the proposal. Rather than a "what we did last time Plus" model – it is a budget based on priority, through the lens of the new city strategic plan. "Evidence based", of sorts. Since expenditures exceed revenues, it is important that we get this in line, in short order.

Detroit Dam – Cooling Tower from Army Corps of Engineers – Comments from the city to the Corps of engineers, along with cities of Turner, Stayton, and Mill City – approach as a unified voice. Technical review and commentary. City wishes to mitigate as many negative effects as possible.

Councilor Jim Lewis

RiverFront Master Plan – Thursday Feb 22nd Pringle Hall – 6PM. Friday Feb 23rd 7AM Rm 325 city hall – 1st meeting of the traffic congestion task force. Budget - Fire station 11 is written into the proposed budget, and we will work hard to keep it there. Lots of opportunities to engage. There are committees reviewing SDCs (system development charges), transit, and streetscapes. City website has contact info for all. The State of the City Address – Mayor Bennett – March 28th – Noon – Salem Convention Center

Difference Makers – Craig Evans

Artonya Gemmill – Nominated “Grandma” Judy Cooper.

She is the grandma to many students, making cards with well wishes. She is a volunteer extraordinaire and makes the lives of many Brush College students so much better. The community and Brush College Elementary School are so thankful and happy to have her.

Nick Fortey – Traffic

Nick has a plan and wishes to approach ODOT to look at lighting at the intersections of HWY 22 and Doaks Ferry; HWY 22 and College Drive. Nick identified 16 locations on Wallace Road that could benefit from increase illumination as well. Nick will forward his letter to be included in the minutes, to outline the 16 locations. They do include intersections of HWY 221 and Michigan City Lane, Lockhart, Deering, Vick, Wallace Hills, Van Kleek/Oakcrest, Brush Hills, Harritt, Valley, Hope, Narcissus, Taybin, Bassett, and a couple of marked crosswalks.

Edgewater partnership brought up 2 things - 2nd St and Gerth and 2nd & McNeeley Limited site distance. Parked vehicles block views.

EM moves to have WSNA support and endorse Nick’s request Second by Herb Shaw. All aye. No nay. No abstain. Motion passes. Nick will move forward with his proposals with the agreement of WSNA.

Nathan Wuerch – Oregon State Credit Union Manager – West Salem Business Association

Someone from WSBA board will be here at the meetings whenever information needs to be shared. Biggest thing – March 7th – Redevelopment Advisory Board – Discussion about ideas of crossing at 2nd Ave and Wallace. 7:30AM – WEST SALEM LIBRARY.

Parks – Gary Deming

Looking to possibly put some woodchips down in the undeveloped parks until a formal plan can be documented and set in motion. If there are any questions regarding parks, feel free to ask Gary.

Edgewater – Steve Andersen

Monthly Walk – Sunday Feb 25th – West Salem Library “monthly rain walk” – learn about how rain and flooding has shaped Edgewater. Coffee at Roth’s in the food court area.

Edgewater partnership meeting – West Salem Boys & Girls Club – Thursday Feb 22nd – noon. Identify safe routes to schools. Mark some maps and talk.

Successful town hall – Kaser, Evans thank you!

7-9PM Kingwood Bible Church – April 11th. Next townhall.

Old Business –

Update on Appeal

Hearings Officer has all information, rebuttals and responses. Waiting for decision.

Michigan City Lane

ODOT will determine how many accidents have been there. Checking with Salem Police Dept. Accidents are not always investigated, and police reports are not always filed. Near-misses are not recorded or auditable. “I would like to see that WSNA agrees there is a problem, and that WSNA would lend their voice to help.”

Gary Shearer moves that WSNA support Westview Estates members with their efforts regarding a signalized intersection at Michigan City Lane & HWY 221. Second by Craig Evans. All Aye, no nay, no abstain. Motion carries. Gary will speak with WSNA support to the city and ODOT regarding this matter.

Tabled item is returned to floor for discussion - WSNA land use position statements

E.M. Easterly comments that it is important for the Neighborhood Association to have an active Land Use committee that presents opinions and summaries for the body to vote on.

Questions from body

Where are we on an active Land Use committee? Jim Allhiser said he will address this by next meeting, if not by the end of the week.

BJ Petersen – question on systems development charges (SDCs)

Plumbing, transportation, others. EM comments. How much does the new guy on the block pay? What gets paid for by the SDCs? Which projects are on the list? Contact city staff member Glenn Davis about any SDC question.

More discussions amongst many members. No motions made. Item does not return to table. Future discussions may be had, or may be directed at the Land Use chair.

New Business-

Mike Evans – ODOT Bridge condition report, emergency preparedness, other topics.

Many documents – summary: “We’re screwed. Everything in those plans is dependent upon having a bridge. Water. Police. Hospital. Recovery efforts.

I think the WSNA should send a letter to the city to ask “No, really, what is the plan?”

“A plan that is built upon the complete falsehood that the bridge will still be there is not sufficient.” We need to ask the City Council about their plan.

Mike Evans moves we have our WSNA leadership draft a letter to City Council to address this concern. Second by Craig. Discussion ensues.

Evan Sorce – center street bridge will be retrofitted to seismic standards within the next 7 years. However, your concerns are valid. The city needs a plan. ODOT needs a plan. The area is unique. “We need to have a plan. There is a hospital you can see that you cannot get to.” Feedback about 2 way / extra lane on center street bridge. Thank you for bringing it to light. “Task force on mega projects” – sections of the task force that are not yet appointed. Encourage to be involved.

More discussion amongst the body.

Motion withdrawn at this time. No vote. Special meeting on March 12th called specifically to review a more formal presentation from Salem Bridge Solutions about the emergency management plan, and to vote on support of the presentation, presenting it to city council at a future time yet to be determined.

E. M. Easterly motions adjournment. Second by Herb Shaw. Meeting adjourned 9:08PM

Respectfully Submitted by WSNA Secretary – Chris Wilhelm